

# DANCE IN HERTFORDSHIRE



# WELCOME

**Welcome to 'Dance in Hertfordshire', an introductory guide to how you could get into dance in Hertfordshire. It offers suggestions of how to find the nearest dance class and provides signposts for progressing in dance to a higher level.**

Dance is a fun way for anyone to get the body and brain active, meet new people and to be creative, and we want more people to know how they can get involved.

This guide is broken down into age groups:

- Under 5s and 5 – 11 year olds
- 12 – 14 years and 15 – 19 years
- Adults – advanced training
- Adults – dance for fun

To find more information about dance organisations in the county that provide dance activity, visit

[www.creativehertfordshire.com](http://www.creativehertfordshire.com), and search for 'Dance'.

Creative Hertfordshire is an online network for creative businesses, individuals and organisations across Hertfordshire. It is a free online resource that allows anyone within the creative business and arts community in Hertfordshire to showcase work, share latest news, events and projects, and network with others. It provides a one-stop-shop for businesses and consumers to find out about who is working creatively in the county, what is happening and where to go. It is designed to encourage interactivity and networking and to help businesses and customers find one another and work together.

[www.creativehertfordshire.com](http://www.creativehertfordshire.com)

# Getting Started in Dance

(under 5s | 5 – 11 years)



**Dance can be started at any age and dance based activities are available for those as young as 12 months. Dance for recreation is available through local dance schools and community facilities.**

## Dance In School:

- Hertfordshire nursery, infant, junior, primary and special schools offer dance through the curriculum. Dance is part of the physical education programme of study at Key Stage 1 and 2.

## Beyond School:

- Dance organisations and dance artists across the county provide creative dance for toddlers.
- Private dance schools offer ballet, tap, modern, street dance, ballroom among many other dance styles. Through many of these, children

can progress to get dance awards and certificates.

- Getting involved in a dance workshop or project is a great way to try out different dance activities before joining a regular dance class. Local council arts officers, libraries, museums, theatres and professional dance company outreach programmes are just some of the people providing projects.
- 'Going to see dance at a local festival or theatre is a great introduction to dance.

For dance organisations, dance artists, private dance schools, dance workshops and projects and local theatres listings search 'dance' on:

[www.creativehertfordshire.com](http://www.creativehertfordshire.com)



# Next Steps in Dance

(12 - 14 | 15 - 19 years)

**Dance can be started at any age. For those looking to develop skills in dance training, there are higher level courses on which to progress. Dance specific training is available through Further Education Colleges and vocational training schools.**

## Dance In School:

Dance continues to be learnt through the curriculum in Hertfordshire Secondary, Special Schools and Colleges and can be taken as a qualification in:

- GCSE Dance
- AS & A level Dance
- BTEC level 2 & 3
- Arts Awards

Many schools also offer out of hours dance clubs.

## Beyond School:

Hertfordshire based and national organisations offer training courses to

take dance to the next level including:

- Youth dance companies
- Local, regional and national dance platforms
- Choreography
- Dance leadership
- Intensive technique development
- Inclusive trainee programmes

For links to national programmes email:  
[carrie.washington@hertsmusicservice.org.uk](mailto:carrie.washington@hertsmusicservice.org.uk)

Private dance schools offer specialist training in many different dance styles that can be accredited and taken through different grades to higher levels.

For Hertfordshire dance organisations, dance skills development courses in the county and private dance school listings search 'dance' on:

[www.creativehertfordshire.com](http://www.creativehertfordshire.com)



## Higher Level Training in Dance

(12 - 14 | 15 – 19 years)



**For young people who have a talent for dance and the dream of taking to the stage, there are vocational and more intensive dance specific training opportunities. Vocational training is a high level training, preparing dancers for a professional dance career.**

For vocational dance training there are specialist dance schools supported through the Department for Education Music and Dance Scheme. These schools provide young people with intensive dance training integrated with regular academic studies. The Council for Dance Education and Training provides advice on vocational training and listings of accredited professional schools and colleges.

Nine Centres for Advanced Training (CAT) exist across the country to provide prevocational specialist dance training programmes that can provide supplementary dance training alongside a young person's Secondary education and other regular dance training.

Talented young dancers can audition to be part of the National Youth Dance Company or the National Youth Ballet, companies that bring the best dancers together from across England.

**[www.creativehertfordshire.com](http://www.creativehertfordshire.com)**



## Advanced Training in Dance

(Adults)

**Dance is a subject that can be taken to Higher Education bachelor's degree, Masters and Doctoral status. Conservatoires and dance establishments provide intensive professional dancer training and apprenticeships provide an entry to a career in dance.**

Degrees and postgraduate study courses in dance can be found through UCAS. Degree courses set people up for multiple careers in dance that could include performer, choreographer, educator, manager, technician, marketing, fundraising and many more.

Conservatoire training is a publicly-funded higher education institution that offers professional dance education and training setting people up for entering into a career in dance. Conservatoire are also found and applied for through UCAS.

For those wanting to teach dance in Primary, Secondary or Special Schools there are dance specific Postgraduate Certificates in Education (PGCE) and School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) courses that lead to Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). To find out where this is offered in Hertfordshire use the online resource 'Teach in Herts'.

The Creative and Cultural Skills website ([www.ccskills.org.uk](http://www.ccskills.org.uk)) provides information and support for finding employment in creative industries including apprenticeships.

**[www.creativehertfordshire.com](http://www.creativehertfordshire.com)**



## Getting Started in Dance

(Adults)

**It is never to late to start dancing. Dance for all ages, abilities and health conditions are available throughout Hertfordshire.**

Getting involved in a dance workshop or project is a great way to try out different dance activities before joining a regular dance class. Local sports centres, village halls, housing associations, council arts officers, libraries, museums, theatres and professional dance company outreach programmes are just some of the people providing projects.

As well as taking part, going to see dance in a local festival or at a local theatre is a great introduction to dance.

For dance organisations, dance artists, private dance schools, dance workshops and projects and local theatres listings search 'dance' on:

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## FIND OUT MORE

If you are an artist, producer, creative organisation, creative business or venue, you can create a profile page on Creative Hertfordshire and showcase your work to others in Hertfordshire.

If you are an individual sign up for the Creative Hertfordshire newsletter to find out about arts news, events, spaces and opportunities. You can also use the 'Creative Directory' to find dance activities across Hertfordshire.

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